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500.33021CX5

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T. NINOMIYA, et al

Serial No.: 09/933,805

Filed: August 22, 2001

For: STORAGE SYSTEM HAVING DATA FORMAT CONVERSION
FUNCTION (Amended)

Group: 2186

Examiner: H. Patel

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Technology Center 2100

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

MS DD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 20, 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and copies of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance and is accompanied by the following certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e):

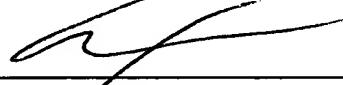
On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Each of the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 is in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.33021CX5) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
	500.33021CX5	09/933,805
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT T. NINOMIYA, et al	
	FILING DATE August 22, 2001	GROUP 2186

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

11. **What is the primary purpose of the following statement?**

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])